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Dodd Case Clarification To Be Asked

Lawyers in Sen. Thomas J. Dodd's $5 million libel suit against columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson will seek clarification this week of a Federal judge's order excluding the press from pretrial question-and-answer sessions.

Both Pearson's and Dodd's lawyers are expected to file on Monday their interpretations of the order given Friday by District Court Judge Alexander Holtzoff.

Warren Woods, representing Pearson, is expected to argue that while Holtzoff granted Dodds' motion to exclude the press from the pretrial depositions of witnesses, the order did not bar access to daily written transcripts of the questioning.

The position of John F. Sonnett, Dodd's attorney, is that under Holtzoff's ruling the transcripts must be kept secret until the court orders them made public.